

I find that my suggestion for the difference of colouration in males and females of animals is in accordance with Professor Thayer's discoveries. Those interested in this subject should certainly read the Professor's book; and after doing so will become, I am sure, firm believers in his theory. There is one point he mentions, which I have never seen mentioned in this connection by other writers, and that is the relative importance to animals of the senses of sight, hearing and smell. Of first importance he places sight, not only because of its great swiftness (*i.e.*, velocity of light) over that of sound, hearing and smell (rate of prevalent wind) but because it operates only in straight lines, whereas sound or smell can be wafted about by the wind; and also it is the final sense by which the predator catches his prey, or the prey avoids the final rush of the predator. He says: "Thus at these crucial moments in the lives of animals, when they are on the point of catching, or being caught, sight is commonly the indispensable sense. It is for these moments that their colouration is best adapted, and when looked at from the point of view of the enemy, or prey, as the case may be, proves obliterative."

It seems to me that by considering the development, in animals, of these three senses from the beginning of time; and by working out the development, through the ages, of colour in animals, strictly following Thayer's laws of protective colouration, an interesting article could be written expounding a theory of how certain animals of to-day have developed vivid colour patterns to a degree: others abnormal sense of hearing; and again others wonderful eye sight; to the exclusion or detriment of the other senses.

Also I must note that the Butterfly that I stated was commonly found among dead leaves under a tea bush does not owe its concealment to "Mimicry" as stated by me. On closer examination I find it is a perfect example of Professor Thayer's theory. It has distinct wing patterns, and perfectly graduated obliterative shading.

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No. X.—NOTES ON THE "ORNITHOLOGY OF KASHMIR."

In Volume XXVIII (p. 990) of the Journal was published an article by Mr. Hugh Whistler entitled "A contribution to the Ornithology of Cashmere." It happened that I was spending a few weeks' leave in Kashmir at the same time a Mr. Whistler, arriving in Srinagar on April 9th and leaving again on May 14th. All my time was spent in the Valley with the exception of two days when I went to the top of the ridge below Mahadeo and overlooking the Shalimar at a height of about 9,000 ft. On comparing my notes with Mr. Whistler's article I find that my observations corresponded closely with his and, in at least one case, it is probable that we saw the same individual birds. A number of species, however, which I noticed, do not find a place in his list and it has occurred to me that the following notes may be of interest as a supplement to it.

One or two of these species I saw on May 12th and possibly they would not ordinarily be seen in the Valley so late in the year. That day was the beginning of a spell of abnormally cold weather; there had been a severe storm in the hills and snow lay low on the ridge overlooking Srinagar. Immediately after it, several new species, some of which I could not identify, appeared in the Nasim Bagh, where I was living, and I have no doubt they had been driven down by the unusual conditions in the hills.

The numbers and nomenclature are taken from Mr. Stuart Baker's Hand List. 443. The Grey Drongo—*Dicrurus leucophaeus* (subs. ?).

I saw a considerable number of Drongos in the Valley and am sure that, as suggested by Mr. Whistler, they were the Grey and not the Black Drongo. The notes of the two species are somewhat different.

719. The Black-headed Myna.—*Temenuchus pagodarum*.

Seen at Uri but not in the Valley.

764. The Verditer Flycatcher.—*Stoparola melanops melanops*.

One seen at Verenag, which lies at the foot of the hills, overlooked by wooded slopes.

774. The Brown Flycatcher—*Aleonax latirostris*.

This was one of the birds seen in the Nasim Bagh after the snowstorm. I am not quite certain of the species but believe it was this one, partly because it had a ring of white feathers round the eye, something like that of the White-eye but not so conspicuous.

834. The White-capped Redstart.—*Chaimarrornis leucocephala*.

Common on all rapid streams where they emerge from the hills.

835. The Blue-fronted Redstart—*Phenicurus frontalis*.

One seen in the Nasim Bagh during the cold spell in May.

843. The Plumbeous Redstart—*Rhyacornis fuliginosa*.

Common on all rapid streams where they emerge from the hills.

853. The Red-flanked Bush-Robin—*Iantha rufilata*.

In pine woods on the Mahadeo ridge about 9,000 ft. A female appeared in the Nasim Bagh during the cold spell.

909. The Blue-headed Rock-Thrush—*Petrophila cinclorhyncha*.

None seen till May 12th, when a number appeared in the Nasim Bagh.

935. The Brown Dipper—*Cinclus pallasii tenuirostris*.

At Verenag and Achibal, at both of which places there is a rapid stream coming out of the hills, and on the stream above the Shalimar.

978. The Black and Yellow Grosbeak—*Perrisospiza icteroides icteroides*.

A few seen on the Mahadeo ridge at 8,000 ft. or 9,000 ft.

1057. The Eastern Meadow Bunting—*Emberiza cia stracheyi*.

Mr. Whistler says that he saw none of this species. But in my notes I find it mentioned as very common, especially in rough country and in the hills, while I did not definitely identify *E. stewarti* except at about 8,000 ft. and over on the way up to the ridge.

1087. The Wire-tailed Swallow—*Hirundo smithii*.

Along the road up as far as Garhi.

1143 (?) The Skylark—*Alauda* ?

A Skylark is plentiful in the Valley wherever there is cultivation but I do not know the species. Presumably it is either *A. gulgula guttata* or *A. arvensis intermedia*.

1137. The Eastern Calandra Lark—*Melanocorypha bimaculata*.

This is not apparently found wild in the Valley but it is exceedingly common as a cage bird.

1359. The Kashmir Roller.—*Coracias garulla semenowi*.

Not very common but a few seen at different places in the Valley and as low as Garhi. They were always in pairs and seemed to keep to the same locality.

1389. The White-breasted Kingfisher.—*Halcyon smyrnensis* (sub sp.) ?

Seen below Garhi. I thought I heard one in the Nasim Bagh but may have been mistaken.

1431. The Kashmir (?) House Swift—*Micropus affinis* (sub sp.?).

I saw a few on the way up to the Mahadeo ridge.

1474. The Himalayan Cuckoo—*Cuculus optatus*.

One heard in pine forest on the back of the Mahadeo ridge at about 9,000 ft.

1586. The Collared Pigmy Owlet—*Glaucidium brodiei*.

Heard in pine forest on Mahadeo ridge at about 9,000 ft.

1794. The Monal—*Lophophorus impejanus*.